

# JAX AIR NEWS

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NAS Jacksonville, Fla.

June 21, 2001

## Schonenberg relieves Chamberlain in 'Tridents' Change of Command

By Lt. Jack McKechnie  
HS-3 PAO

Cmdr. Lee W. Schonenberg relieved Cmdr. George A. Chamberlain, Jr., as skipper of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 3 during a ceremony June 6 aboard the USS Enterprise (CVN 65) while the carrier was in port Naples, Italy. Capt. David J. Mercer, Commander, Carrier Air Wing Eight, was the guest speaker. Schonenberg is the forty-fourth commanding officer of HS-3.

Mercer spoke generously of Chamberlain and lauded HS-3's performance in meeting intense operational tasking with limited resources. "Helicopter squadrons face challenges unknown to the other squadrons of the air wing including the longest flight day and increased platform maintenance demands," he said. Chamberlain was presented the Meritorious Service Medal for performance that enabled HS-3 to meet or exceed all CNO training objectives for deployment, despite the highest

operational schedule of any air wing squadron. With aggressive training and personnel management he successfully led HS-3 through the first East Coast helicopter advanced readiness program with a perfect weapons delivery record. By advocating personal growth and expanding opportunities in the Navy though special programs and morale-building squadron functions, Chamberlain increased manpower retention by 18 percent and reduced attrition from 15 to 5 percent. HS-3 continued to demonstrate superior tactical acumen with a highly successful combat rescue detachment to Tunisia. Chamberlain will next report to Naval War College in Newport, R.I. to participate in the Alfred Thayer Mahan scholar program.

Chamberlain is a native of Milton, Mass. and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1982. He completed flight school and was designated a Naval Aviator in August 1984 and reported to HS-15 where he deployed to the Mediterranean and North Atlantic aboard the USS Forrestal (CV 59). While assigned to HS-15 he served as the Legal Officer, Public Affairs Officer, Nuclear Weapons Training Officer, Avionics/Armament Division Officer, and Antisubmarine Warfare Officer.

In June 1988, Chamberlain reported to the Naval Postgraduate School as a student in the Aeronautical Engineering curriculum,

See HS-3, page 13



Cmdr. George Chamberlain pins Cmdr. Lee Schonenberg with the "Trident" Command at Sea pin. This pin has been passed from CO to relieving CO for decades.

## The Marines are here!

Marines with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit fast-rope from a CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter during training exercises in the Yellow Water area adjacent to Cecil Field. The unit, based in Camp Lejeune, N.C., has been operating out of NAS Jacksonville and training at various locations in the Jacksonville area over the last couple of weeks. For more on the training see pages 16 and 17.



Photo By JO3 Jackey Bratt

## Vieques training to end in 2003

WASHINGTON (NWS) — In a June 15 Pentagon press conference, Secretary of the Navy Gordon England announced that the Navy is actively planning to discontinue all training exercises on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques in May of 2003.

England has also stated that the Department will seek legislative relief from the current requirement to conduct a referendum on Navy training at Vieques. That referendum is currently scheduled for Nov. 6 of this year.

An outside panel of experts will be created to reinvigorate efforts to identify alternatives to conduct effective training. The panel will consist of active-duty and retired military experts, along with civilian technicians.

"I want to emphasize that I brought this proposal forward within the DoD and to the White House," England said. "I believe that this approach best reduces what I consider to be the greatest risk to the Navy — to our Sailors and Marines — which would be to lose the ability to continue critical training on Vieques for the next two years while we seek alternatives."

He added that the two-year timetable to leave Vieques is "challenging, but it is reasonable and achievable."

England emphasized that the level of emotion involved distracts from the real issue, which is "providing effective training for naval forces."

As the clock ticks on the balance of the Navy's time in Vieques, the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) Battle Group is beginning a new round of exercises. The battle group includes more than 10,000 Sailors and Marines aboard 11 ships.

England stressed that the Navy will continue to use the range facilities on Vieques until May of 2003, in accordance with the currently accepted restrictions on live fire and usage rates.

"There is no viable 'near-term' alternative to the facilities at Vieques," England added.

The Navy has operated on the Caribbean island since 1941. The Navy bought two-thirds of Vieques as a staging area in World War II, but earlier this year returned one-third of the island to the municipal government on Vieques.

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Jax Air News online: [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil)

## Meet a Sailor... AO2 Don Weatherby



**Job Title/Command :** NAS Jacksonville, 1st LT

**Hometown:** Cape May, N.J.

**Past Duty Station:** Sea Control Squadron (VS) 31, NAS Cecil Field Weapons Dept.

**Family Life:** Wife, Christine

**Career Plans:** To advance as high in rank as I can.

**Most Interesting Experience:** Being in England for the D-Day celebration.

**Words of Wisdom:** "Don't forget to remember where you came from."

## Meet a Civilian... Jennifer Lynn Shockley



**Job Title:** Lifeguard at the NAS Jax outdoor pool

**Hometown:** Jacksonville, Fla.

**Past Duty Station:** Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

**Family Life:** Father, Lt. Cmdr. John Shockley, mother, Anita Shockley

**Career Plans:** Plans to attend the University of Central Florida and major in Marine Science/ Animal Behavior, then become a killer whale trainer and a scuba instructor.

**Most Interesting Experience:** Growing up in a communist country, Cuba.

**Words of Wisdom:** "Don't burn the day away." — Dave Mathew's Band

# Lightning: A deadly threat

**By Dave Colourn**

*NAS Jax Safety*

### Question

What does 'waiving a metal bat in the air and lightning have in common?

### Answer

A crispy softball player!

A softball game is shutdown due to rain because it makes the ball difficult to catch and throw; and sliding around in the mud and on the wet grass is dangerous. A softball game is shutdown due to lightning because you can be killed!

There was lightning in the immediate area the other day, and I had to go over to the McCaffrey Softball Fields to shut down a softball game. Historically we have had entire teams knocked to the ground due to a lightning strike on the field.

Safety, both operational and personal, is a shared responsibility. The message is simple and as old as the Navy itself: leaders take care of their military and civilian personnel. That duty is all encompassing, touching almost every aspect of our personal and professional lives. Leaders take responsibility for the actions and omissions of the men and women they lead, on duty and off, to an extent that is unique to military culture. They actively concern themselves with their peoples' physical and mental well being, training, personal readiness, and family readiness. It is evident that conditions, practices, and habits posing a threat to their safety must be sought out and eliminated by leaders."

While there were several senior military members at that game, both watching and playing, there were no leaders present. "With safety, moral courage is required: the fortitude to step forward and speak up when an unsafe act or condition threatens harm. Such moral courage is an essential character element."

Regardless of your rank, you have a responsibility to "step forward and speak up," do it!

In the above incident we could have had one or more people killed or seriously injured. We didn't. We got lucky and won that round. Don't expect to get lucky every time - it won't happen! MWR has a horn to secure play at the NAS Jacksonville Golf Club when lightning approaches. Softball games must be

secured the same as play on the Golf Course, and for the same reason. Remember, secure the game and be safe!

Florida, the "Sunshine State," has more than one million cloud to ground lightning strikes each year. For this reason, Florida has ironically earned a second nickname, "Lightning Capital" of the United States. On average, over 50 people are struck annually, most requiring hospitalization and injuries on about 10 people result in death.

Although lightning activity occurs across the entire state, some regions within Florida have higher concentrations of cloud to ground lightning strikes. The Tampa Bay area is struck by more lightning than any other part of the state. Nearly 50 lightning bolts blast each square mile of the bay area annually.

As Florida's overall population continues to rapidly increase, the number of people spending time outdoors also increase. Therefore, a growing number of people are vulnerable to the effects of Florida's weather, namely cloud to ground lightning strikes. During the summer, everyday activities, such as afternoon picnics in a park, golfing, or even walking to a car, can become life threatening.

Although the typical afternoon thunderstorm moving across Florida is relatively short-lived, about 30 minutes, all thunderstorms have the potential to produce cloud to ground lightning. Because thunderstorms are such a common event during the summer months in Florida, people often fail to take shelter when threatening weather approaches. Those who are outdoors often ignore nature's warning signs, such as thunder, darkening skies, or even flashes of lightning nearby.

Studies conducted by the Tampa Bay National Weather Service Office show that people are most often struck under trees, in open areas such as parking lots, fields, airport runways and near vehicles. Lightning usually strikes the tallest objects, such as trees, or a person standing in a field. Lightning is also attracted to metal objects such as chain link fences and cars. The inside of an automobile is relatively safe because lightning travels over the metal exterior.

*See Lightning, page 3*



## It's free!

It's free! Give yourself the gift of a Navy CREDO Retreat. Personal growth retreats are offered June 21-24, Aug. 16-19, Sept. 20-23. July 27 - 29, Marriage Enrichment Retreat. June 8-10 Family Retreat. July 13-15 Teen Retreat. Sept. 14-18 Facilitators Training Retreat. For more information, or to register, call CREDO at 270-6958.

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## JAX AIR NEWS

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# Navy Exchange expansion progresses, promises better quality, shopping facility

By JO2 Eric T. Clay  
Staff writer

Please pardon the mess. Your Navy Exchange (NEX) is expanding to serve you better.

Improvements that are being made include a new food court, two central checkout areas with a total of 19 cash register stations as well as expansions to the cosmetic and fine jewelry areas.

The Exchange is adding 2,970 square feet of administrative space and 5,400 square feet in the services area to include the laundry, dry cleaners, barber and beauty shops and optical shop. The retail space will grow by 19,180 square feet and new lighting, carpet and fixtures are being installed to brighten up the atmosphere.

The retail space enlargement involves sizable expansions in the furniture department and the audio department. Marc Rodgers, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) Facilities Maintenance manager Southeastern District, said, "There was a big demand for these areas."

Those departments are close to being completed. The furniture warehouse has also been enlarged to keep stock items available.

"The renovations to the cosmetic and jewelry de-

partments will provide the shoppers more area to walk around and shop," Rodgers said. The construction of these areas will be completed by July 31 he said, but it will take a few more weeks for the fixtures to be in place and the area to reopen.

Also being completed are new front entrance restrooms.

The optometry department was remodeled and the NEX now has an optometrist on staff ready to serve customers Rodgers said. The customer can receive an eye exam and get prescriptions in one stop at the Exchange.

The tailor shop will now be a part of the uniform department, to better serve the customer.

Of course, everyone wants to know what new food vendors will be opening in the new food court area. "The vendors currently slated to move in are Taco Bell, Sbarro, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and a burger vendor," Rodgers said, "Burger King is looking like the choice, but they haven't committed yet." "The finish of the food mall is

scheduled for the October time frame," said Rodgers.

Most of the construction and renovation is contracted, but NEXCOM South East Region does all the fixtures and minor alterations.

All the fixtures are being stored in a warehouse until construction is complete.

Improved energy efficiency is another way the NEX is planning to save dollars. "All the fixtures in the new NEX will be energy saving," Rodgers said, "The Exchange has converted to natural gas from steam to save money."

The NEX expansions



Jose Cortes and Mason Gilmartin puts electric conduit in place.

involve a \$4.5 million construction project, including material, equipment.

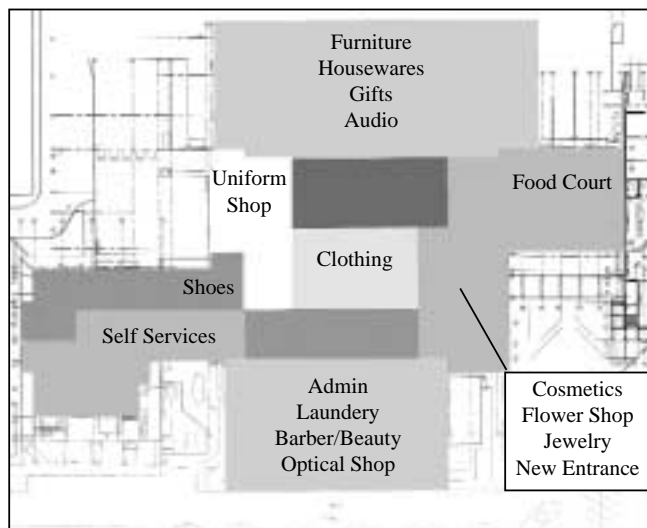
Due to unforeseen construction problems, the Exchange is currently behind schedule by about six months.

"In order for the Exchange to be completed quicker, the store would have to be shut down," said Rodgers. "That wouldn't be realistic," he said, "because there wouldn't be funds coming from sales revenue to support MWR."

The target completion date, as of June 15, is now set for Jan. 18, 2002. A couple of additional weeks will then be needed to have the fixtures and new displays in place.

The scheduled completion date can change on a week-to-week basis, Rodgers explained, due to the nature of construction projects.

Despite the mess and all the complications Rodgers remains enthusiastic and looks forward to the day when everything is completed and our Sailors are able to enjoy a vastly improved shopping experience at the NAS Jax Navy Exchange.



## Lightning: Alert

Continued from page 2

or to the ground, but standing next to an automobile is not safe.

The summer months of June, July, August, and September have the highest frequency of lightning-related injuries and deaths. Lightning generally occurs between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Most people are stuck in the mid-afternoon hours between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. as the typical afternoon thunder-

storms reach their peak intensity. Some days are worse than others. July 4, 1996, proved to be that year's single most dangerous day. 27 picnickers and firework spectators were injured and one person was killed. Adults are struck more often than children and males are struck more often than females. Studies have indicated that more injuries and deaths occur with either the first or last stroke of lightning in a particular thunderstorm.

Most people are stuck outside. However, there have been some cases where lightning has traveled through electrical wires and phone lines and struck

people indoors. The safest place to be during a thunderstorm is inside and away from windows and electrical appliances. Lightning occurs almost daily in Florida during summer, and may strike several miles away from the main thunderstorm. A pertinent safety rule to be stressed is to keep an eye on the sky and go inside as soon as clouds darken and thunderstorms develop. Think Safety - Work safely, and go home at the end of the shift!

# Rotary honors Faraldo

**By Loren Barnes**  
Editor

Capt. David Faraldo, USN-Ret., was honored by the Orange Park Rotary Club June 12 as the Club's Outstanding Citizen of the Year. The award was presented to Faraldo at the club's luncheon at the Orange Park Holiday Inn.

The Rotary has presented the Citizen of the Year Awards for 31 of its 32 years of existence and Faraldo said he was honored and he says surprised to join the illustrious line of recipients. Faraldo said he knew many other people in Clay County would have been equally deserving of such recognition.

"This was the culmination of the work of a lot of people and I was just lucky enough to be able to pick up the trophy," he said. He added, "Those of us in the military who have chosen to retire someplace other than their hometown face special challenges in getting involved in their adopted community. We have to find a niche, a group in which we can do good work. That group for me is the Orange Park Rotary Club. I feel I have found my home." Faraldo serves as the Chairman of Membership Development for the Rotary's Northeast Florida district.

Other civic involvement for the retired Navy Captain includes work as the District Chairman of the Black Creek District Boy Scouts and membership on the Junior Achievement Board of Directors.

Faraldo is known aboard NAS Jacksonville for his work as the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Executive Director, a position he says he enjoys because it makes a direct and positive impact on the lives of Sailors and their families.

The Rotary citation lauded Faraldo's community activism and demonstrated "willingness to create positive change for the military and civilian community" and "his vision in developing new ideas



*Photo by Jon Cantrell courtesy of Clay Today*

**Jerry Lindner Jr., left, presents Orange Park Rotary Club's Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award to David Faraldo.**

to meet the needs of the community."

Faraldo has been at the spearhead of highly successful movement to affect legislative action on an issue that directly impacts military members as well as low-income people.

He and other leaders in the NAS Jax Navy community have taken on the Title Loan Industry to curb unfair lending practices. Faraldo has been an outspoken leader in this battle demanding action on local, state and federal levels.

Working with Navy leadership, concerned citizens and media representatives, he has forcefully brought the issue before legislators for action. He has been recognized by many as a key mover in obtaining the passage of the first county laws capping title loan interest rates and in helping convince Gov. Jeb Bush to sign a state law reducing title loan rates to 30 percent statewide.

Continuing the fight, Faraldo and his allies are pressing the battle on payday lenders, an industry that often charges up to 300 percent interest rates.

# Annual WOPA Professional Development Symposium in Washington, DC Aug. 2-3

**From the CNO**

The Women Officers Professional Association (WOPA) in conjunction with the Army Womens Professional Association (AWPA) will host its 14th Annual Symposium (Training Conference) on Aug. 2-3 at National Defense University, Fort Leslie J. McNair, Washington, DC. The theme for this year's symposium is *Charting Your Life: Method for Madness*; and will include presentations regarding career options and life maintenance discussions. WOPA is a professional organization which fosters educational and career development and provides networking and mentoring opportunities for active, Reserve and retired members of the sea services.

Attendance is open to current WOPA members, as well as other men and women serving as military officers, enlisted or federal government employees. COs are encouraged to support attendance in order to maintain an further professional development of command personnel. Issuance of TAD orders, to include registration, transportation and per diem is authorized. If funding is not available, permissive TAD orders may be issued.

Attendees must pre-pay by personal check. Personnel traveling on official orders must have conference fee authorization cited on orders to be recouped by travel voucher reimbursement (DD Form 1351-2 (Rev 08-97). Registration fee for applications postmarked no later than July 15 is \$70 for members and \$90 for non-members. Non-members may join in conjunction with registration and receive the members' rate. WOPA membership dues and separate social/entertainment expenses are not reimbursable.

Late registration fee for applications postmarked after July 15 and received no later than Aug. 2 is \$85 for members and \$105 for non-members.

Fee includes continental breakfast both days and luncheon on Thursday and Friday.

Arrangement for single day registration are covered in registration materials. There will be no on-site registration.

Registration materials for members will be included in the newsletter. Materials are also available at the WOPA and AWPA web sites ([www.wopa.org](http://www.wopa.org) and [www.armywomenspa.org](http://www.armywomenspa.org)) or by contacting Lt. Cmdr. Gillian Jaeger, (703) 693-0230/DSN 223, email: [jaeger.gillian@hq.navy.mil](mailto:jaeger.gillian@hq.navy.mil).

# Give The Gift That Grows



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## VP-30 hosts DEFY 2001 summer camp at NAS Jax

DEFY is a two-phased prevention program for kids ages 9-12. DEFY deters "at risk" behaviors by giving kids the tools they need to resist drugs and develop positive social skills. The leadership and life skills training provided by DEFY include goal setting, team building, conflict resolution and decision making.

Wanted: Youth for an eight-day summer camp consisting of drug and gang prevention, self-esteem development, peer pressure, and leadership. Only accepting Military and DoD kids ages 9-12.

\*Pick up and return Youth Applications at VP-30 Duty Office (Yorktown Gate).

\*Deadline for registration has been extended to June 28.

\*The mandatory meeting for all parents will be held on June 28 at 6 p.m. in the VP 30 auditorium. (Yorktown Gate)

Camp Dates & Location: July 9, 2001 through July 18, from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday and Monday through Wednesday at the Naval Reserve Building NAS Jax (Birmingham Gate)

POC: NCC(SW) Long 542-3769 or YNSN Mannon 542-3360.

# KUDO KORNER

The following Sailors were recognized for outstanding performance by Commanding Officer, Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility, Jacksonville recently:

### **Navy Achievement Medal**

AC2(AW) Daniel Dammarell

### **Good Conduct Medal**

ACCM(AW/SW) Michael Holder

OS1 James Cifers

AC1 Shannon Johnson

AC3 Paul Debernay

AC2 Michael Esplana

IT2 Keisha Haywood

AC2 Scott Jones

AC2(AW) Quincy Sinette

OS2 Torrance Taylor

OS3 Kamika Dixon

OS2 Kaisha Prochaska

FC2(SW) Jeffrey Sachinski

OS2 Terry Ward

## NAS Jacksonville Stray/ Nuisance Animal Procedures

If you lose or find a pet, please call Base Security Dispatch at 542-2662. If you are having a problem with feral cats or other nuisance animals, please contact the Housing Office at 542-2996 for assistance. You may also call Duval County Animal Control at 387-8846 for an inquiry.

# ‘Topcats’ travel to New York for ‘Fleet Week’



The flight deck of the USS John F. Kennedy was host to thousands while the carrier was in New York City for its annual Fleet Week. (Top left) Lt. Chuck Stickney reenlisted AD3 Terrance Roach in a ceremony held at the Statue of Liberty. (Bottom left) Topcat aviators had the honor of meeting Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Gen. Henry Shelton, USA, while on the Trading Floor of the New York Stock Exchange. (Bottom right) The USMC Drum and Bugle Corps, with Manhattan in the background, perform on the flight deck of USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) at the Sunset Parade.

**By Lt. j.g. Josh Keever**  
VS-31 PAO

Sea Control Squadron (VS) 31 returned May 31 from a memorable 10 days in New York City. The “Topcats,” onboard USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67), accompanied the ship to New York City for its annual “Fleet Week” celebration.

“Topcat” Commanding Officer Cmdr. James Gregorski, along with Lt. Cmdr. Jeff DeBolt, flew one S-3B

Viking onboard the Kennedy during her transit to New York. The aircraft was later positioned on the flight deck and used as a static display for the numerous shipboard tours. The Kennedy moored next to the historic USS Intrepid (CV-11) museum May 23 and was pier-side until the morning of the 30th.

The “Topcats” enjoyed the many historical and exciting attractions unique to New York City. Many sailors were able to witness baseball games

courtesy of the New York Yankees and the New York Mets. In addition, “Topcats” enjoyed touring such landmarks as the World Trade Towers, Statue of Liberty, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Empire State Building, Brooklyn Bridge and the beauty of New York’s famous Central Park. Also, many “Topcats” enjoyed the unique experience of visiting the culturally diverse sections of Manhattan’s own Chinatown and Little Italy.

The highlight of Fleet Week came when Lt. Chuck Stickney re-enlisted AD3 Terrance Roach for four more

years at the Statue of Liberty. Family and friends were on hand to witness the unique ceremony held on Liberty Island and received a rare tour of the statue’s crown. Another highlight came when a small group of “Topcat” aviators were present on the Trading Floor of the New York Stock Exchange for the ringing of the day’s opening bell by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Gen. Henry Shelton.

The people of New York and the surrounding areas were extremely hospitable and went to great measures to give all sailors a fun and memorable experience in “The Big Apple.”



# 'Scouts' award coveted honor to deserving aviators

**By Lt. Jacob Abrams**  
VS-24 PAO

To the "Scouts" of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 24, the "Duty Cat" is a hallowed symbol of perseverance in the face of adversity. This cat has a great deal of history behind it as well as a special significance to the squadron members who enjoy its guardian angel-like assurance of safe flight.

Since the end of WW II, the "Duty

Cat" has watched over "Helldivers" of VB-17 and later "Scouts" of VS-24 flying into harm's way. An important tradition in VS-24 is the wearing of the "Duty Cat" emblem on one's flight jacket. In order to be awarded this much-sought emblem, aircrew have to accrue at least ten day and six night arrested landings on board an aircraft carrier. Additionally, and as importantly, the candidate must handcraft and perform a poem of tribute that must be approved by the

"Scout" wardroom. This often requires more than one attempt by even the most gifted of poets. Once awarded, the lucky "Scout" prizes their "Duty Cat" for the remainder of their career and beyond.

The "Duty Cat" is typically awarded to "Scout" naval aviators and flight officers, because they usually gain plenty of arrested landings performing their aerial duties. It is a rare and important event when the squadron awards a "Duty Cat" to a non-winged flyer, and on May 29

two distinguished "Scouts" earned this honor. AE1(AW) Michael Mayberry and AM1(AW) Scott Koleber gained their "Duty Cats" only after delivering well-crafted poems on board USS Enterprise during VS-24's current Mediterranean deployment. Both petty officers have served with the "Scouts" for approximately four years maintaining aircraft and have been designated as special mission personnel in the S-3B after having completed a rigorous Temporary Flying Orders (TFO) syllabus. Mayberry and Koleber both earned their final qualifying landings recently while on deployment and were anxious to complete their final step toward a beloved "Duty Cat."

Mayberry will be transferring to VS-22 in June and Petty Officer Koleber will be rotating to shore duty sometime this summer. Their contributions both in the cockpit and to the VS-24 maintenance team will be sorely missed. The "Scouts" wish them hearty congratulations and good luck in future assignments. They are yet another piece of corroborating evidence in the widely held belief that "*Scouts Rule!*"

**AE1(AW) Michael Mayberry and AM1(AW) Scott Koleber are presented the coveted "Duty Cat" by VS-24 Skipper Cmdr. Brian Luther.**





# 'Nightdipper' One reenlists Chief Braden

By Lt. Frederick D. Dietrich  
HS-5 PAO

YNC Anthony Braden was reenlisted on June 8 by the Skipper of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 5, "Nightdipper" One, Cmdr. Steve Schreiber. Braden's family, including his wife, Robin and two sons, Corey and Anthony, were in attendance for the occasion. His daughter, Jasmine, lives in North Carolina and was unable to attend.

Although Braden has been with the squadron for only a short time, he has done a great deal of work. Interestingly enough, not all his hard work was done at HS-5. Braden was on temporary assigned duty (TAD) for a brief time to the USS Spruance to as-

sist in a short notice change of command where his expertise was greatly needed. Additionally, HS-3 requested his extraordinary administrative skills during a critical manpower shortage. As is typical of Braden, he volunteered and got underway with HS-3 for their JTFX.

The "Nightdippers" were glad to get him back for his reenlistment. He will be leaving HS-5 for Millington, Tenn. to the Detailer Office at the end of the summer. While his leadership and expertise will be missed, he is going to a position where he can help hundreds of Sailors - which has always been his career goal.



YNC Braden is reenlisted by Cmdr. Steve Schreiber, Skipper of HS-5

## Professionalism highlighted during recent Security picnic

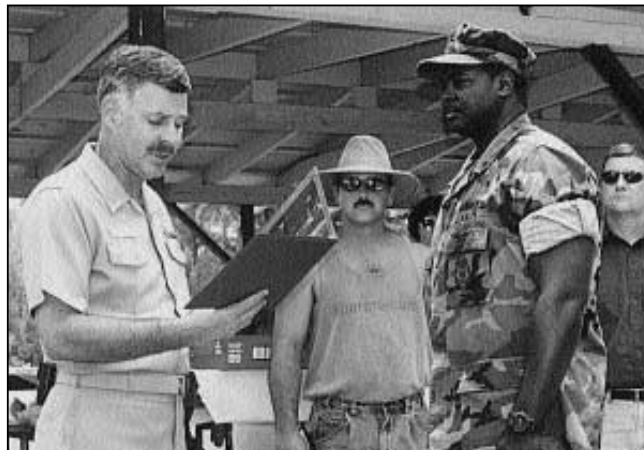
From NAS Security Department

Members of Naval Air Station Jacksonville Security Department joined local Naval Criminal Investigative Services members recently for a picnic at NAS Jacksonville's MWR Sea King Park II. Representatives from Clay and Duval County Sheriff's Office were also on hand for the event.

NAS Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel spoke to attendees and remarked on the professionalism and quality of the local law enforcement agencies and departments.

During the event, NAS Executive Officer Capt. Steven Bagby presented a Letter of Appreciation to NAS Security for the department's recent

volunteer work. Bagby also presented NAS Security's MA1 Thomas M. Payden a Navy Achievement Medal for his performance during the Security Department's Explosive Safety Inspection. The department was rated among the highest under U.S. Navy standards. Letters of Appreciation were also presented to MA2 Joshua Weemhoff and Sally Day for their efforts during a special operation between Patrol Squadrons (VP) 5 and 7. Weemhoff and Day ensured a seamless operation between the squadrons while the Security Department transitioned and accessed VP-5 and VP-7 personnel around various areas of the NAS Jacksonville flightline.



NAS Executive Officer Capt. Steven Bagby presents a Navy Achievement Medal to MA1 Thomas M. Payden during a recent NAS Security picnic.

## Refund checks due military taxpayers too

WASHINGTON (NWS) — If you owed federal income taxes for 2000, a check for up to \$600 will be in the mail for you by September.

Lt. Colonel Thomas K. Emswiler, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council in the office of the assistant secretary of defense for force management policy, said military members are as eligible as other taxpayers for the federal refund that's made headlines recently.

In an interview with the American Forces Radio and Television Service, Emswiler said the tax bill just signed by the president creates a new tax bracket of 10 percent and made the rate retroactive to Jan. 1.

"In the past, the lowest tax rate was 15 percent," Emswiler said. "The five percent reduction will allow most taxpayers to get a refund."

The law provides for the mailing of refunds to begin in July and to be completed by the end of September. Plans now call for the first checks to be mailed out July 20 and the last batch to be mailed out Sept. 28. Taxpayers will receive letters in July explaining how much to expect and when.

Emswiler said anyone who had a federal tax liability for 2000 is eligible, providing they weren't claimed as someone else's dependent. "Liability" means owing more than the amount of nonrefundable credits, such as education and child care credit.

Refundable credits, such as the earned income tax credit, don't count for determining eligibility or the amount of the refund. "If you filed a

joint return last year and had at least \$12,000 in taxable income, you'll receive a \$600 refund," Emswiler said. "That \$600 represents the difference between taxing \$12,000 at 15 percent and taxing it at 10 percent as provided for under the new law."

"If you filed as head of household last year and had at least \$10,000 in taxable income, you'll get a refund of \$500," Emswiler continued. "Most taxpayers who filed as single last year and had at least \$6,000 in taxable income will get a refund of \$300."

Persons claimed as dependents, such as children, college students and elderly parents, receive no refund. Emswiler said the refunds he cited are maximums — persons who reported less than the threshold incomes receive proportionally smaller refunds. "But as long as you had some tax liability in 2000, you'll get a refund," Emswiler noted.

Eligible taxpayers need only ensure the Internal Revenue Service has their correct mailing address. Service members should notify the post office of permanent change of station moves or file IRS Form 8822, change of address, with the IRS.

The IRS plan is to issue refunds according to the last two digits of the individual taxpayers' Social Security numbers.

Refunds for those with "00" will be among the earliest checks mailed in July; "99s" will be among the last in September.

The process is scheduled to take three months because 96 million checks are involved.



# Hey, Money Man!



## Hey, MoneyMan!

I saw a man walking around in the barracks the other day and he asked me if I was interested in investing some money or buying some life insurance. He said he had a special permit to be in the barracks because he represented "all armed forces." When he told

me about his program, it sounded great and I signed up. My supervisor told me that these folks were not supposed to be in the barracks. Do you know anything about them? Is there any way I can get out of this contract?

## MoneyMan Sez:

Be careful of any salesman in the barracks. They are NOT supposed to be there unless they have an appointment. And remember that even those with appointments are there to make money! If you want to invest for the future, and you should, there are plenty of options available that do not carry expensive fees or charge commissions. Check with the credit union, your bank, the FSC financial counselor, your CFS or NMCRS. If they can't help you, they will send you to someone who can. Also, before you sign any contract, be sure to have it checked out by someone you know and trust. If the salesman discourages you from having someone else look at the contract before you sign it, you can bet it is not a good deal! To get out of it, contact your legal office and have them look it over.

More questions? Call Hey Money-Man! at 778-9353.

# Navy reinforces commitment to Sailors' College Education

## From Navy Media Center

The Navy has expanded its College Assistance/Student Headstart Program, or CASH.

The CASH program allows qualified applicants to attend a college or university for up to a full year after being sworn into the Navy, while receiving full Navy pay and allowances. Selectees also receive a military

identification card and medical/dental benefits for themselves and any eligible family members.

This program enables personnel to continue working toward a degree at any

accredited college or university while awaiting basic training.

Enrollment in the CASH program requires the applicant to maintain full-time student status and completion (with a

grade of C or better) of one college-level algebra course prior to reporting to Recruit Training Command.

In addition to the CASH program, a bonus is also available to those with college experience.

Based on the number of college credits completed, applicants can qualify for up to \$20,000 in enlistment bonuses.

For more information on these and other Navy opportunities, call 1-800-USA-NAVY, or visit [www.navyjobs.com](http://www.navyjobs.com).



# NAVY NEWS

## **SURFLANT increases reenlistment rates**

NORFOLK, Va. (NWS) — “We are in a war, a war for people,” said Rear Adm. Jay Foley, commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic Fleet (SURFLANT).

For the past several years the American economy has made the option of moving out instead of up a viable option for more and more Sailors, so the war is a fight to keep the most valuable asset in the Navy’s arsenal: people.

SURFLANT is seeing some hard-won gains since it went on the offensive in this war.

In fact, SURFLANT leads the way in reenlistment rates for Zones B, C and D for the 12-month period ending April 30 with rates of 70.3 percent, 87.9 percent and 98.0 percent. Those rates are higher than the Navy and Atlantic Fleet averages. Zone B represents Sailors with between six and 10 years of service, Zone C Sailors have between 10 and 14 years of service and Zone D Sailors have 14-plus years of service, not to exceed 20 years.

The retention offensive has included a number of innovative strategies. SURFLANT units can share their retention strategies via the Force Career Counselor’s Web site at <http://www.cnsl.spear.navy.mil/N0/N02c/index.htm>.

One ship that has shared its ideas with the fleet is the Mayport-based guided missile destroyer USS Carney (DDG 64). The chief petty officers’ mess hosts introductory investment classes for Sailors.

“You would be surprised how many Sailors’ eyes open real wide when they see how easy it is to start an IRA (individual retirement account) and how the

profits balloon over a period of time,” said Carney’s command master chief OSCM(SW) Scott Williams. “The theme of that training is to let Sailors realize they can earn two retirement payments each month. One payment from their military service, and one from money they have available once their IRAs mature.”

During the past year, Carney’s first-term reenlistment rate has nearly tripled rising to 45 percent.

Helping Sailors look at the financial options is a recurring theme among retention teams throughout the Atlantic Fleet surface force.

On board the Norfolk-based guided missile cruiser USS Monterey (CG 61), Sailors are required to watch the PBS documentary “Surviving The Good Times,” which follows two blue-collar families through the past 10 years and the economic challenges they face. The ship also uses first class petty officers and chiefs with homes, families and investment portfolios as examples of how Sailors can succeed on a military salary.

“We work hard at defining reality,” said Monterey’s commanding officer Capt. Bill Walsh. “That is, the Navy has opportunities and benefits superior to most of the civil sector and we’ve come up with quite a few programs to help make that point.”

In the past year, Monterey’s first-term reenlistment rate has more than doubled to 65 percent.

On board the Norfolk-based guided missile destroyer USS Barry (DDG 52), Cmdr. Perry Bingham, the ship’s commanding officer, puts a personal touch on the retention program, inviting Sailors at career decision points to lunch with him in his stateroom.

“My goal isn’t to put them in a headlock or anything,” Bingham said. “I just want to find out if they have a plan. If they do, fine. If they don’t, then I want them to know I can help. I’m not at all afraid to pick up the phone and bend the ear of a detailee if it will help get a good Sailor a good set of orders.”

Bingham believes the payoff from a proactive retention program is in positive morale for the crew, which they take with them when they transfer.

“Having the facts, freedom of choice and a wide range of options helps Sailors make clearer decisions that have long-term benefits for them, their ship and the Navy,” Bingham added.

Barry’s first-term reenlistment numbers doubled to 60 percent over the past year.

Foley believes philosophies like those on Carney, Monterey, Barry and others are how the Navy will retain more of its Sailors.

“Retention is an important, ongoing process,” Foley explained. “It’s not something that you think of when a Sailor or officer is considering leaving. It’s everything we do for our people from the time they put on a uniform to the day they leave the service.”

Foley added, “We have to fight to keep our people — each and every Sailor — one at a time. They are the cornerstones of operational excellence.”

A motivated crew has a significant, positive and obvious impact on command climate, which almost always results in increased combat readiness and material condition.

With that in mind, Foley believes the Navy can retain more good people by building good people and then convincing them to stay.

“Does all this good news mean the war is over? Far from it,” Foley said. “We’re scoring some victories, but we have to remain vigilant.”

For fleet-wide best practices information, commands are encouraged to

use the popular “Stay Navy” Web site sponsored by Navy Personnel Command’s Center for Career Development at <http://www.staynavy.navy.mil>. Just select “CO’s Corner” for the latest information on innovative approaches to successful retention programs in practice throughout the fleet.

## **Boeing JSF begins testing at NAS Patuxent River**

PATUXENT RIVER, Md. (NWS) — The Boeing Company’s X-32B Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) concept demonstrator has begun testing at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, following its May 11 arrival on station. The X-32B, which is Boeing’s short-takeoff-and-vertical-landing (STOVL) JSF variant, is the version designed for the Marine Corps and the British Royal Navy.

The joint military-Boeing test team recently completed its first tied-down engine runs at Pax River’s Hover Pit facility.

The test team is using Pax River’s unique test and evaluation capabilities to demonstrate the STOVL flight performance required by the Marine Corps and the British Royal Navy.

The government is in the process of selecting a single contractor for the engineering and manufacturing development phase of the JSF program. Besides the STOVL variant for the Marines and Royal Navy, the selected contractor will produce a conventional takeoff and landing variant for the Air Force and a carrier-suitable variant for the Navy.

According to Denny Kline, Boeing’s director of JSF communications, evaluation work at Pax River began May 14

*Continued on page 11*

with some preliminary work at the Hover Pit. The 10-foot deep pit has a grated landing deck, below which are turning vanes to capture an aircraft's downward high-energy engine output and redirect it away from the plane.

Boeing flight test manager Paul Martin explained that the pit "emulates the out-of-ground-effect environment," meaning that it allows an aircraft to touch down without suffering the complications of near-ground hover flight. Those complications include a "suck-down" effect that increases sink rate toward the end of the landing sequence, and potential ingestion of hot exhaust gases into the engine intake.

Martin said there were "no surprises" during the early function tests, allowing the team to proceed with reconfiguration of the aircraft in preparation for actual flight test. The X-32B was fitted with a brand new engine that Martin called the "silver bullet," because of its pristine condition and optimal performance. Engineers also fitted the airframe with fixed lift-improvement devices, panels that help capture and focus the exhaust plumes from the X-32B's vertical lift nozzles.

"In a production configuration, the lift improvement devices would have actuators to engage them," Martin said, "but

this is a concept demonstration airplane."

Following the engine swap and reconfiguration, the test team needed to complete weight and balance checks on the aircraft to account for the changes. However, a malfunction in a portable scale forced an unexpected trip to Pax River's Aircraft Test and Evaluation Facility (ATEF), commonly known as the "Hush House." The Hush House is an enclosed, acoustically insulated facility for ground testing installed aircraft systems with or without engines running. Among the many tests ATEF can support are weight and balance tests.

"The base was very good about telling us to go ahead and use the Hush House," Martin said. As it turned out, the Hush House could support certain tests that the team would otherwise not have been able to conduct. "It ended up being a very good thing for us."

If all goes as planned, the coming weeks will see the X-32B complete its first transition — going from wing-borne flight to jet-borne flight — followed by vertical landing on the hover pit and, finally, vertical landing on a solid hover pad. Each step will be a milestone for the aircraft.

"We had some conversions back in (Edwards Air Force Base) California — converting from conventional mode to

a STOVL mode at altitude," Martin explained. "The aircraft was decelerated, but wasn't brought to a hover."

By contrast, the transitions performed at Pax River will build down in air speed until the wings no longer provide lift and the jet exhaust through the vertical lift nozzles does all the work to keep the plane in the air.

Martin said that the team expects to complete required testing by mid-July, though a number of factors could affect that timetable. He said it is too early to determine what will be done with the X-32B following testing at Pax River.

More information about the JSF program can be found at <http://www.jast.mil>.

### Revised computer disposal procedures announced

WASHINGTON (NWS) — Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz has rescinded a January 2001 Department of Defense (DoD) policy calling for destruction of all unclassified computer hard drives leaving departmental custody.

Wolfowitz's new disposal guidance will make more computers available for schools and other worthy organizations. Based on comments and suggestions from organizations throughout the department, Wolfowitz has directed the office of the assistant secretary of defense

(command, control, communications and intelligence) to issue new procedures for disposition of unclassified DoD-owned or controlled computer hard drives.

Under this new guidance, the minimum requirement for equipment leaving DoD custody or control is for computer hard drives to be overwritten, not completely destroyed.

Degaussing and destruction alternatives are still authorized when there is particular concern about the sensitivity of data used on the machine. The long-standing practice of destroying hard drives on computers with classified information remains in place.

This risk management approach meets the department's security needs by creating appropriate department-wide procedures and controls. It also allows DoD to continue to support reuse of excess computers by worthy groups.

In fiscal 2000, DoD donated more than 74,000 pieces of computer equipment to school organizations. This equipment had an original acquisition value of \$97 million.

The new policy direction, entitled "Disposition of Unclassified DoD Computer Hard Drives," is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.c3i.osd.mil/hotopics.html>.

## Jax Tales

By Mike Jones - [mikejones43@hotmail.com](mailto:mikejones43@hotmail.com)



# Stopped by the police? Know your 'rights and responsibilities'

**By JO2 Eric Clay**  
Staff writer

There are many different reasons the police may stop a motorist. A police officer may stop you to warn you about a potentially dangerous situation, or because you have committed a traffic violation or because your vehicle may match the description of a vehicle used in a crime. The police officer might also think that you are in trouble or that you may have witnessed a crime.

In all these situations you should be aware of your rights and responsibilities when interacting with the police officer. Knowing what to do can make the experience less threatening to everyone involved.

Mountain bike patrolman, Jerry Syrek said, "We are



**JJ Faro, NAS Jacksonville Police Bike Unit Supervisor, checks a motorist on Mustin Road for seat belt use.**

here to educate, not punish."

On Naval Air Station Jacksonville, you may be pulled over for routine seatbelt checks, he said. The mountain bike patrol checks at least 100 vehicles a day in front of the BEQ according to Syrek.

If stopped by the police while driving, you may feel confused, anxious, or even angry. But keep in mind, a routine stop is very stressful to the police officer as well. Each year, many police officers are killed in routine traffic stops in the line of duty. Traffic stops are the third highest reason for police deaths.

Night stops are especially stressful due to the police officer's increased vulnerability. Obviously the officer's sight is more limited, putting the officer more at risk. Also the chances of a volatile situation developing is increased due to the fact that there are more drunk drivers pulled over at night than in daylight hours.

There are things that you as a law-abiding individual can do to lessen the stress of the situation. When you see the blue overhead lights and/or hear the sirens, pull over to the safest location, remaining calm.

Do not exit your vehicle unless asked. Always keep your hands on the steering wheel so the officer can see them. If you have weapons of any kind, inform the police of their location and avoid any sudden movement.

When the police officer asks you to let them see your license, you'll need to inform the officer if they are out of reach. Passengers in the vehicle should also be encouraged to remain calm and quiet during the stop.

During the stop, you should answer all questions truthfully and avoid arguments, but you may ask questions dealing with the stop.

Refusal to sign a citation may result in arrest. Signing a citation isn't an admission of guilt.

Each situation is unique and each one is handled differently. Generally the police will offer their name, be informative as to the reason of the stop and will only arrest a person for a crime committed.

The policemen of the mountain bike patrol try to be as visible as possible. At the Child Development Center they stand out front and use radar to stop vehicles from exceeding 15 mph. They also stand on the side of the road in front of the hospital trying to stop vehi-



**Akron Road is one spot on station where patrolmen prevent speeding through the use of radar guns.**

cles from going more than 25 mph.

Syrek said, "We are proactive instead of reactive; we want to stop crime before it takes place." That is the reason the police want drivers to know where they use radar and where they do seatbelt checks.

## Southern Illinois University at NAS Jax class schedule

### Fall 2001

*Aug. 25 - Oct. 7 (Accelerated)*

WED 460 - Occupational Analysis and Curriculum Development

WED 384 - Adult Education and Training

WED 466 - Foundations of Work Education

WED 386 - Post Secondary Workforce Education

*Oct. 20 - Dec. 2 (Accelerated)*

WED 462 - Instructional Methods and Materials

WED 463 - Assessment of Learner Performance

WED 469 - Training Systems Management

WED 386 - Post Secondary Workforce Education

*Aug. 25 - Dec. 2*

WED 398 - Special Problems

WED 381A & B - Training Proposal and Report Writing

WED 468 - Education / Labor Force Linkages

WED 495/496 - Instructional or Professional Internship

The Bachelor of Science degree in Workforce Education and Development at NAS Jacksonville is designed for the working adult student.

Applications are currently being accepted. For additional information, call 542-5414 or stop by our office in Building 110.

Classes are held at Human Resources Offices, Building 4, Ranger Street.

## HS-3: Schonenberg takes command

*Continued from page 1*

where was awarded a Master of Science degree. Upon graduation, Chamberlain reported to the staff of Commander, Carrier Air Wing Three deploying to the Mediterranean aboard the USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67). Upon completion of that tour of duty, Chamberlain was assigned to the HS-7 "Dusty Dogs" where he served as the Administrative Officer and Operations Officer, deploying to the Mediterranean and the Arabian Gulf aboard the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69).

In July 1995, Chamberlain transferred to the Chief of Naval Operations staff under the Director, Air Warfare as the HS Training Requirements Officer. Following transition training to the SH-60F at HS-10, he reported for duty as Executive Officer, HS-3. He deployed to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71). Chamberlain assumed command of the HS-3 "Tridents" on March 30, 2000 at NAS Jacksonville and deployed with the squadron as a component of Carrier Air Wing Eight aboard the USS Enterprise (CVN 65) in April 2001.

During his career, Chamberlain has been awarded the Air Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, two Navy Commendation Medals, three Navy Achievement Medals and various unit and campaign awards.

Schonenberg is the son of Herman and Emily Schonenberg and is a native of Setauket, Long Island, N.Y. He graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1983 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1985. His initial fleet assignment to HS-3 included deployments to the Mediterranean Sea aboard USS Saratoga (CV 60) and to the North and Baltic Seas aboard USS Hayler (DD 997). He served as Quality Assurance, Detachment Maintenance and Nuclear Weapons Training Officer.

Schonenberg reported to HS-1 in 1989 as an Instructor Pilot in the SH-3H helicopter. In 1991, he attended the

U.S. Naval Postgraduate School where he earned a Masters Degree in Information Systems Management.

From 1991 to 1993, he served on the staff of Commander Destroyer Squadron 20 (CDS-20) as Air Operations Officer. While there, he qualified as Tactical Action Officer and deployed to the Red Sea in support of Maritime Interception Operations during Desert Storm, the Caribbean Sea in support of Haiti contingency operations and for UNITAS 34-93, the U. S. annual naval deployment to South America.

Schonenberg then returned to HS-1 as Training Department Head and Instructor Pilot in the SH-60F helicopter. During his tour, he completed the transition of all Atlantic Fleet HS squadrons to the SH-60F/HH-60H aircraft. In 1995, he reported to HS-11 where he served as Operations Officer, deploying aboard USS America (CV 66) for an Arabian Gulf and Mediterranean Sea deployment. He has flown more than 2,500 flight hours in Sikorsky helicopters. (SH-3/SH-60/HH-60)

In 1997, Schonenberg served on the Chief of Naval Operations staff, Assessment Division (N81), as Rotary Wing and Aircraft Carrier Force Structure Analyst and then as Flag Aide to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Resources, Warfare Requirements, and Assessments (N8). He then attended the U.S. Navy War College, earning a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies and National Security Affairs in 1999.

Schonenberg's personal awards include four Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medals. He holds various other unit and campaign awards including four Battle "E" awards.

Schonenberg is the proud father of two sons, Lee William "Will" Jr., 12, and Richard Herman, 10. They attend the Christ Our King Stella Maris Elementary School in Mount Pleasant, S.C. His personal interests include family vacations with his sons, New York sports teams, outdoor sports, aviation history, and classic cars.



The HS-3 Change of Command aboard the USS Enterprise (CVN 65).

# MWR NOTES

## ITT Trips

Explore Northern Florida - June 30. Ride and visit Amelia Island, Fernandina Beach and tour the Budweiser factory. \$8/person with \$10 optional History Tour of Fernandina Beach.

Savannah Trip (Good Deal) - Saturday, June 23. You will have plenty of time to visit the historic buildings, eat lunch and shop! Cost \$23.75.

Cheer on the Tomcats! - Ride with us to see the game June 22. Ticket price and shuttle bus is \$10/person, if you already have a ticket ride with us for \$4.

Disney Trip - June 21. Depart 6 a.m. and return around midnight. Adults \$57.75 and Children (3-9) \$48.75.

Sea World Orlando - Sounds of Freedom, a spectacular Fourth of July celebration, runs from June 30 - July 4. The day is filled with incredible food and festivities and the evening will culminate with an amazing fireworks show synchronized to the sounds of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. Cost of Sounds of Freedom is included in your Sea World Orlando admission.

## NAS Lanes: 542-3493

Price strike down June 4-Aug. 10. All games are only 99 cents from opening until 2 p.m. daily!

## Liberty Events: 542-3491/1335

Outdoor Pool Party: Tomorrow - Enjoy free food, drinks and giveaways - 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Deep Sea fishing trip aboard the K-2: Saturday - \$40 active duty and \$50 for guests. Space is limited.

Ping-Pong Tournament: June 25. Free pizza and soda at 6 p.m., tournament begins at 7 p.m. \$35 for first place.

June Birthday Celebration: June 27. Will be celebrating the "Happy Birthday Song's" birthday and active duty that has a June Birthday. Free cake, drinks, presents and a piOata!

Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest: June 28 at 6 p.m. Free to enter and prizes awarded for 1st and 2nd place.

Coming in July: Look for information on a White Water Rafting Trip! For suggestions on trips or events you would like to see at Liberty, please email the Liberty Coordinator at dbud-dock@nasjax.navy.mil.

## Free Movies

Free movies are shown in the Base Theater located on Jason Street every Friday at 7 p.m. and every other Saturday at 5 and 7 p.m. Movies are open to

all. Bring your own snacks, no alcohol please and please do not leave children under 18 unattended.

Friday, 7 p.m. - *Wrongfully Accused* rated (PG-13)

## Mulberry Cove Marina: 542-3260

As the weather is getting warmer, the water is looking better and better. Summer Specials include the Camper's Combo- four-man tent, lantern, stove, and two sleeping cots or pads only \$10. June 16, 17, 30 and July 1- Jet ski special \$25/hour. Don't forget, before you can rent any of the boats, jet skis, or other watercraft, you need to complete a Boater Safety Course that's free to take. Call for more information.

Yesterday's Caff  is a step back in time to the 50's era with tunes on the jukebox and handmade milkshakes. The Caff  is located in The Zone on the corner of Jason Street and Saratoga Avenue and is open from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Check out our Thursday Special of the Month.

## Budweiser Brew House: 542-5009

The Brew House is a full family dining facility located in The Zone on the corner of Jason Street and Saratoga Avenue. The Brew House has two for one special every Tuesday, come on in and see the line up. Enjoy live entertainment starting at 8 p.m. on Fridays.

## Bambino's: 542-3900

Bambino's is your headquarters for food delivery on base and is running a Wednesday buy one pizza get the second one for half price special after 2 p.m. Free on-base delivery. Delivery ends at 8:30 p.m. However, pick-up of our delicious pizza and subs is available from 8:30-10 p.m. in the Brew House.

## Fitness Source: 542-3518

The Fitness Center located on Enterprise Avenue will be closed June 21, 22, 23 and 24 to install tuflex flooring in the cardio area. It will reopen for normal working hours on June 25.

Fitness Source will have a gladiator competition on July 13 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4-8 p.m. Call for more info.

ITT is now open at Yellow Water Youth Center. Come by the Center and purchase your discounted tickets to one of the many choices. We have the same tickets as the NAS Jax office or we can get it within 24 hours. ITT is open Monday-Friday from noon-6 p.m.

*The MWR website is moving. Now you can check out all the latest and greatest of MWR by visiting [www.nas-jax.navy.mil](http://www.nas-jax.navy.mil) and clicking the MWR link.*

# MWR Aquatics offers swimming excitement to patrons 6 to 60 plus

**By Eric T. Clay**  
Staff writer

Naval Air Station Jacksonville's MWR Aquatic Section offers swimming programs to people of all ages, year round. The season is in high gear. The outdoor pool is open until the end of September and classes are available at that location well into August.

It seems it is never too early to start training the future swimming medal winners of tomorrow. The NAS Jax' gym's aquatics program has classes available to introduce even the smallest potential Olympians to have fun in the water. The "Baby and Me" class enables children

ages 6 months to 3 years to get their first aquatics experience in a safe, secure environment, through games and songs. Under the direct supervision of an adult partner, the children enter the water and participate in various group activities involving games, and songs.

If you're a few years beyond the diaper set, the aquatic department can still teach you to swim or help you to enhance existing skills. NAS Aquatics instructors teach swimming in a seven-skill-level progressive format:

Level 1 - Water Exploration is a class to teach students to feel comfortable in the water and elementary aquatic skills.

Level 2 - Beginning locomotion skills and fundamental skills are taught in the Primary Skills Class.

Level 3 - Stroke readiness teaches additional guided practice of primary skills and coordination of the front and back crawl.

Level 4 - Development of confidence in strokes and increased endurance are learned in the Stroke Development Class.

Level 5 - The Stroke Refinement Class teaches basic strokes, butterfly, open turns and rescue skills are intro-

duced.

Level 6 - Strokes are polished so students can swim them with more ease, efficiency, power and smoothness in the Skill Proficiency Class.

Level 7 - The Advanced Skills class perfects skills, emphasizing good fitness habits.

While classes are currently full in the beginning and intermediate classes, Julie Candill, the Naval Air Station Aquatic Director said, "There are still many available spots open for the advanced levels (5-7). "Additional classes can be created at all levels if there is a demand for them," Candill said.

For highly skilled swimmers, the aquatic department also offers competition preparation conducted as a swim team practice.

An adult fitness club for novice to advanced swimmers wishing to enhance their Physical Readiness Test (PRT) swimming time, skills and techniques is also offered. Candill said, "Most participants cut their PRT times after being in this program."



**Ranae Hook teaches her son, Ethan, how to swim at the outdoor pool.**



**The outdoor pool is a great place to escape the summer heat.**

And the Aqua-Aerobics Program is in full swing for the summer. It began May 29 and runs five days a week, Monday through Friday. The program provides a total body workout for people of all ages and fitness levels. Classes include exercises for aerobic conditioning, flexibility and strength. Aqua-aerobics offers a safe

*See Aquatics, page 19*



# Marines train in Jacksonville

**By JO3 Jackey Bratt**  
*Staff Writer*

Hundreds of Marines and Sailors of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C. began two weeks of realistic urban training in Jacksonville June 8. "Training in an Urban Environment Exercise" (TRUEX) includes nearly 600 members of the MEU. It affords them a critical opportunity to conduct valuable training in a large American city prior to their Mediterranean Sea deployment in September.

As a deployable Marine command, it is vital for the MEU to train together. During this exercise, disciplined reactions to wartime events are vital. Marine units that have been training separately are integrated into a maritime special purpose force for a specific raid.

With terrorists, disputes and areas of hostilities becoming far too common, our military has to be prepared to execute U.S. policy everyday. "In a rapidly urbanizing world, Marines of the 26th MEU must be prepared to meet any contingency, humanitarian assistance, peace-keeping, or mid-intensity conflict simultaneously, in a three block environment. It is only through realistic training that Marines will be prepared to meet these challenges and win," said Col. Andrew Frick, 26th MEU commanding officer.

In addition to the command element of the 26th MEU, members who participated in the training were from Battalion Landing Team 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment (BLT 3/6,) reconnaissance Marines of the MEU, elements of the Medium Helicopter Squadron 365 (HMM-365,) and MEU Service Support Group 26 (MSSG-26.)

"Jacksonville was chosen because of its large downtown environment. It also is surrounded by a large rural environment as well as industrial areas that will get utilized," commented Lt. Col. Daniel Yoo, 26th MEU operations officer. "Another important reason our training is going on in Jacksonville is because of the receptiveness and support the community and residents of Jacksonville demonstrate in having so many Marines come."

"You don't generally see military aircraft flying through your local airspace and landing in school playgrounds and backyards and those type of areas," Yoo concluded.

"Before we execute any operation, we will pause and evaluate the risks involved with conducting the training

as planned and ensure that we are trained, equipped and qualified to perform that task," Frick said.

To ensure the safety of Jacksonville citizens and to prevent residents and business owners from being surprised by the exercise, Marines and law enforcement agencies informed residents and business owners in advance.

Fully coordinated with city, state and federal agencies, the exercise featured low flying helicopters, simulated machine gun fire and as many as 100 Marines operating in cordoned-off areas of Jacksonville. The training sites in Jacksonville Beach, near Cecil Field and downtown were provided through the generosity of business and property owners.

The Marines' primary exercise was an assault on Jacksonville's old Roosevelt Hotel held June 19.

Marines arrived by fast roping from CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters on to the hotel's roof and grounds adjacent to the building. Their mission was to overwhelm Marines acting as terrorists in a Caribbean Island stronghold. The exercise included forcing a door from the building's roof with explosives, securing the perimeter from the ground as well as simulating the recovery of wounded Marines by helicopter.

To ensure public safety, vehicle and pedestrian traffic on streets next to the hotel was halted for about an hour during the assault.

The Marines presence just a few block's from Jacksonville Landing drew hundreds of spectators along barricaded streets, in office windows and on rooftops.

Col. Victor Riley, Officer in Charge, Special Operation Training Group at Camp Lejeune, N.C. said, "I thought it was an outstanding exercise. I thought it provided everything they needed to deploy. It was a very positive step toward the next evolution when they go aboard ship." Riley's unit was responsible for training and safety oversight during 26th MEU's training in Jacksonville.

Riley concluded saying, "We're very thankful to NAS Jacksonville for providing support. They were an excellent host."

*Photo By Jeff Hilton*

**The old Roosevelt Hotel (foreground) in downtown Jacksonville was the target of a Marine training assault.**

*Photo By JO3 Jackey Bratt*

**Marines conduct aerial insertions near Cecil Field.**





*Photo By Jeff Hilton*  
Before Marines, left, could enter the hotel from the roof, a door had to be opened with explosives.



*Photo By Jeff Hilton*  
**Lt. Col. Daniel Yoo, coordinates the assault from the roof of a nearby building.**



*Photo By Jeff Hilton*  
**Marines in black helmets, simulating foreign nationals inside the perimeter, were taken into custody by the assault force.**

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Branch 126**, Fleet Reserve Association will hold its regular monthly meeting tonight at 8 p.m. All active duty and/or retired enlisted personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard; and enlisted Reserve personnel are invited to join Branch 126 and attend meetings. Call 771-2936 for information.

**Training - SPAWAR Jacksonville** presents Introduction to the Department of Defense (DoD) Information Technology Security Certification and Accreditation Process (DITSCAP); reference DoD 5200.40. If your information systems need to be certified and accredited, this course is for you! This two-day course provides an overview of the four DITSCAP Phases and their associated tasks. It is not agency or service specific. This course does not certify INFOSEC officials. Cost: \$250 for DoD personnel and \$270 for NON-DoD personnel. Date: June 19-20, 2001. For information, call Sandra Cullers at 542-6221.

**The Polish American Club of Northeast Florida** invites you to an evening of dancing and listening en-

joyment with the Rick Piotrowski Orchestra June 23, 7 to 11 p.m., 5850 Collins Road. Cost is 7.50 per person (members), \$8.50 per person (non-members), children admitted free. Food will be available. For information call 772-7836.

**The City of Jacksonville** invites civic, community, school, military and business groups to participate in the Third Annual Independence Day Parade, July 3, at 5 p.m. The parade route begins at Pearl and Water Streets and ends at the Sports Complex. If you are interested in participating with a float, decorated car or other entertaining entry, contact Troy Winn at the City of Jacksonville Office of Special Events at 630-3690 or via e-mail at twinn@coj.net. Opportunities also exist for sponsorship of parade balloons similar to those featured in New York's annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The Independence Day Parade is part of the City of Jacksonville's Freedom, Fanfare and Fireworks, a two-day celebration to honor America. For more information call the Special Events

Hotline at 630-3686 or visit our web site at [www.coj.net/events](http://www.coj.net/events).

**Grace Episcopal Church** in Orange Park will be hosting the fourth annual Children's Music and Arts Camp from July 9-13 for second through seventh graders. The event will be led by Connie Forunato, a composer, author and internationally recognized expert in development of children's choirs. For information call 264-9981.

**The 2001 BellSouth Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament** is July 9-14 at Sisters Creek Park. Organized by Jacksonville marine Charities the tournament is in its 20th year. The event features sensational prizes including deluxe fishing boats and even a Ford F150 Supercrew pickup and a Ford Explorer.

Twenty-five places are paid for largest and aggregate with cash prizes up to \$20,000. The event features food, music, fireworks and entertainment including the Atlanta Rhythm Section. Information and on-line registration is available at [www.kingfishtournament.com](http://www.kingfishtournament.com) or fax registration request to (904) 745-3188.

**The Jacksonville Shell Club** is holding its 35th Annual Shell Show Festival July 14 and 15. The event will take place at Brampton Inn, 1201 N. 1st Street, Jacksonville Beach, Fla. The show will include displays of worldwide seashells and fossils. Shell art and shell craft will also be available for viewing and purchase.

Suggested donation is \$3. Children under 12 free.

**VP-11, NAS Brunswick, Maine**, will host its Reunion Sept. 7-9. Contact Capt. E.M. Brittingham for information. His mailing address is 45 Malvern Ave., Apt. 1, Richmond, Va. 23221, phone number is (804) 342-8070.

# Aquatics: Get wet with MWR

*Continued from page 15*

and refreshing way to exercise. Candill said, "This type of work-out is better for you than regular exercise because it offers a complete resistance workout without the body shock of hard surface exercise."

Looking for a great summer job? The aquatic department teaches the American Red Cross Lifeguard course, June 18-29 (session 1) and July 9-20 (session 2). "At least 50 percent of the lifeguards that work for the Aquatic department were trained in this program," Candill said.

Finally, if you're just looking to cool

off and have a good time this summer, the outdoor pool is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. until Sept. 3. After Sept. 3, the outdoor pool is only open weekends from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The indoor pool is open on weekdays until September for lap swim from 6 to 8 a.m. and again from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Recreational swim is from 5 to 8 p.m.

The indoor pool will be closed on Independence Day, July 4 and Labor Day Sept. 3.

For more information contact the indoor pool at 542-2930 and the outdoor pool at 542-3720.



## AT THE GALLEY

### Meal hours

Monday through Friday

Breakfast 6 to 7:30 a.m.

Lunch 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday and holidays

Breakfast 6:30 to 8:30 a.m.

Brunch 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Dinner 4 to 5:30 p.m.

### Meal costs

Breakfast \$1.50

Brunch/Lunch \$3

Dinner \$3

Note: The Galley Menu is subject to change. The food service officer is authorized to make changes to the general mess menu to provide substitutions for food items not in stock or to permit timely use of perishable stocks.

### Thursday

Breakfast

Grilled ham slices  
Hash brown potatoes  
Waffles  
Assorted omelets  
Oven fried bacon  
Grits

Lunch

Lemon baked fish  
Rice pilaf  
Chicken gravy  
Broccoli  
Baked chicken  
Mashed potatoes  
Lima beans  
Corn chowder

Dinner

Oven roast beef  
Parsley potatoes  
Green beans creole  
Chicken rice soup  
Brown gravy  
Scalloped ham/noodles

Steamed rice  
Steamed corn

### Friday

Breakfast

Oven fried bacon  
Hash brown potatoes  
Oatmeal  
Assorted omelets  
Corned beef hash  
French toast

Lunch

Mexican pork chop  
Spanish rice  
Asparagus  
Tomato noodle soup  
Herbed baked fish  
Scalloped potatoes  
Mixed vegetables

Dinner

Salisbury steak  
Home fried potatoes  
Peas and carrots  
Beef rice soup  
Baked stuffed fish  
Lyonnaise rice  
Summer squash  
Brown gravy

### Saturday

Breakfast

Grilled minute steaks  
Cottage fried potatoes  
Grilled pancakes  
Grilled bacon slices  
Assorted omelets

Brunch

Grilled ham and cheese  
Boston baked beans  
Vegetable supreme soup  
French fried potatoes  
Mixed vegetables  
Grilled bacon slices

Dinner

Herbed baked chicken

Chicken gravy  
Okra and tomato gumbo  
Minestrone soup  
Jaegerschnitzel  
Whipped potatoes  
Steamed cauliflower  
Egg noodles

### Sunday

Breakfast

Corned beef hash  
Hash brown potatoes  
Waffles  
Assorted omelets  
Oven fried bacon  
Grits

Brunch

Oven fried bacon  
Cheesy bacon burger  
Steamed corn  
Glazed carrots  
Cream of chicken soup  
French fries  
Assorted omelets

Dinner

Beef sauerbraten  
Beef gravy  
Green peas  
Cream of chicken soup  
Baking powder biscuits  
Turkey pot pie  
Rissolo potatoes  
Stewed tomatoes  
Steamed egg noodles

### Monday

Breakfast

Minced beef w/toast  
Hash brown potatoes  
Grits  
Grilled bacon  
Assorted omelets

Lunch

Beef suriyaki  
Filipino rice  
Peas and carrots  
Cranberry sauce  
Brown gravy  
Southern fried catfish  
O'Brien potatoes  
Cream style corn  
Shrimp gumbo soup

Dinner

Grilled pork chops  
Buttered noodles  
Succotash  
Vegetable soup

Braised beef cubes  
Lyonnaise potatoes  
Brussel sprouts  
Brown gravy

### Tuesday

Breakfast

Creamed chipped beef w/toast  
Strawberry pancakes  
Assorted omelets  
Hash brown potatoes  
Oatmeal

Lunch

Chicken tetrazzini  
Steamed rice  
Steamed broccoli  
Brown gravy  
Iced yellow cake  
Meatloaf  
Oven browned potatoes  
Steamed cauliflower  
New England clam chowder

Dinner

Sweet and sour pork  
Mashed potatoes  
Cabbage wedges  
Chicken noodle soup  
Oven roast beef  
Chow mein noodles  
Seasoned corn  
Brown gravy  
Steamed rice

### Wednesday

Breakfast

Grilled sausage links  
Cottage fried potatoes  
Grits  
Grilled bacon slices  
French toast  
Assorted omelets

Lunch

Hungarian goulash  
Stir fry vegetables  
Steamed egg noodles  
Mulligatawny soup  
Garlic fish  
Steamed carrots  
Oven-glo potatoes

Dinner

Chicken adobo  
Steamed rice  
Cauliflower combo  
Pepper pot soup  
Tempura fish fillets  
Parsley potatoes  
Club spinach

# FRUIT OF THE MONTH: LEMON

Did you know

- That the lemon originated in China
- Lemonade was a favorite of the Chinese Emperors?
- Lemons made their way to the United States with the help of Catholic Missionaries and were planted in Arizona and California. Today they produce

virtually all of the lemons consumed in the U.S. as well as about one-third of those used throughout the world.

Lemons are valued for their many uses in flavoring the food we eat, as a garnish, and for household purposes.

Varieties: There are two different types of lemons, which include acid and sweet.

The most common acid varieties include Eurekas and Lisbons. The acidic types are grown mainly by home gardeners. The trees bloom continuously all year and can produce up to 500 or 600 lemons a year.

Selecting: Lemons should be firm and have a bright yellow color. Avoid soft, shriveled lemons with spots. The

best lemons will be fine textured and heavy for their size. Thin skinned fruit tends to have more juice, while fruit that has a greenish cast is likely to be more acidic. One medium lemon has about three tablespoons of juice and three tablespoons of grated peel.

Storing: You may store lemons at room temperature for about two weeks. They will keep for up to six weeks in a plastic bag in the refrigerator. Use lemons as quickly as possible after cutting.



# NAVHOSPJAX NEWS

## What TRICARE Senior Pharmacy users should know about coverage

"What if I have other health insurance? How does my TRICARE coverage work?"

These questions continue to be among the most commonly asked about the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program that began April 1, 2001.

TRICARE beneficiaries with other health insurance have "double coverage," and basically, TRICARE is second payer. TRICARE pays after the other health insurance has paid a claim for covered drugs, or when the beneficiary's prescription coverage under that plan is exhausted for the year.

Another related frequently asked question is "What if I have other health insurance, but it does not include prescription coverage?" Beneficiaries may need to contact one of the two regional claims centers to change their other health insurance information to indicate that they do not have prescription coverage.

They should call the toll-free TRICARE Pharmacy Help Line at 1-877-363-6337, to find out what information and documentation is required, the telephone and fax numbers, and address for their regional claims center.

If they have double coverage and must fill a prescription before their information is updated, they may have to pay for the prescription initially, and file a claim for reimbursement from TRICARE.

A third question beneficiaries are asking is "Can I use TRICARE's National Mail Order Program (NMOP) if I have prescription coverage under other health insurance?" They may only use the NMOP when their required medication is not covered under their other plan, or if they exceed the dollar limit of coverage under that plan.

Otherwise, their other health insurance is still first payer and they may not use the NMOP.

"'Double coverage' sometimes caus-

es confusion, but it does not prevent our beneficiaries from enjoying the benefits of their TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program," explains Army Col. William Davies, Department of Defense (DoD) pharmacy director.

"Most of our beneficiaries with other health insurance find that they have the best possible prescription coverage, often ending up with little or no out-of-pocket costs," he said. "They can file a claim to TRICARE for reimbursement of their out-of-pocket costs after their other health insurance pays on their prescription claims."

It's important that they hang on to their pharmacy receipts showing out-of-pocket expenses, and their explanation of benefits (EOB) statement from their other health insurance.

By providing adequate documentation to the TRICARE claims processor, they will be able to maximize their reimbursement."

TRICARE will provide reimbursement up to the amount TRICARE would have paid as first payer, or the amount of the beneficiary's out-of-pocket expense, whichever is less.

Examples of other health insurance plans TRICARE beneficiaries may have are those that provide coverage through a current or former employer, an association or private insurer, a Medicare health maintenance organization, the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP), or a Medigap supplemental insurance with a prescription benefit.

More information about this program is available through the toll-free TRICARE Pharmacy Help Line at 1-877-DOD-MEDS (1-877-363-6337). The Help Line is operational weekdays (Monday through Friday) from 7 a.m.-11 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Eastern Time.

Information also is available on the TRICARE Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy).



# On The Go with USO

## New baby zebra at Jacksonville Zoo

The Jacksonville Zoo is proud to announce a new baby zebra now on exhibit. She was born June 6 and weighed 77 lbs. At birth. She can be seen at her Mother's side on exhibit with the other zebras and giraffes that share her new surroundings. USO has discount Zoo tickets, \$6. For adults, \$4. For children.

## Footprints: Story of Our Space Program

A free performance of "Footprints on the Moon" is scheduled for Thursday night at 7 p.m. at Times Union Center for performing arts, Jacoby Hall. Following the presentation, refreshments will be served, River City Youth Band will perform and cast members will sign autographs.

## Fourth of July Events

July 3 - Downtown 4th of July Parade starts at 5 p.m., with staging at the CSX

# First Coast Navy Mustang Association Golf Tournament

The First Coast Navy Mustang Association is hosting a Golf Tournament July 20 at the Naval Station Mayport Golf Course. All Mustangs are invited (officers who received their commissions through an in-service procurement program and wear the Navy Good Conduct Medal). Your invited guests are welcomed and we strongly encourage you to consider prospective Mustangs as invited guests.

The format will be Four Person; Best Ball; Captains Choice with a Shotgun Start at 0800. Your level of play (or non-play) is of no significance - come on out and enjoy the camaraderie and swap some sea stories.

The cost is \$40 each; that in-

cludes Green Fees; Prizes and Lunch with Beverages. Put together your own foursome or make your reservation and we will build the foursomes. Either way reservations are needed very soon. Reservations must be made by 5 July and payment must be received by July 9 July.

Points of Contact:  
Jerry Blocker Phone: (904) 771-1475 (W) (904) 262-9618 (H)

## Ronald McDonald House volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help landscape the new Ronald McDonald House located behind Wolfson Hospital. The landscaping will be done June 23, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (lunch provided). The site is located at the corner of Nira and Palm Ave. in Jacksonville. To volunteer contact JoAnn Dilling at USO, 778-2821.

# JAX SPORTS



## Navy Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Team seeks members

Are you a competition runner? Would you like to represent the U.S. Navy in 5k, 10k, marathons, and/or triathlons? The U.S. Navy will showcase elite active duty men and women in regional races. Uniforms will be provided as well as transportation, entry fees, and lodging costs.

Interested runners must compete in a sanctioned (USA Track and Field, USA Triathlon Association, or Roadrunners Clubs of America) race and your time must be one of the top ten regional qualifying times.

If you have run in a sanctioned race and your time meets the regional qualifying time, contact your base athletic director.

## Qualifying Times

### 5K

Men 19:00  
Women 24:00

### 10K

Men 34:00  
Women 46:00

## Marathon

Men 3 Hours 30 Min.  
Women 4 Hours

## Triathlon

Men 2 Hours 30 Min.

Women 3 Hours

Triathlon time based on 1.5k swim, 10k run, 40k bike

## Sports officials and scorekeepers needed

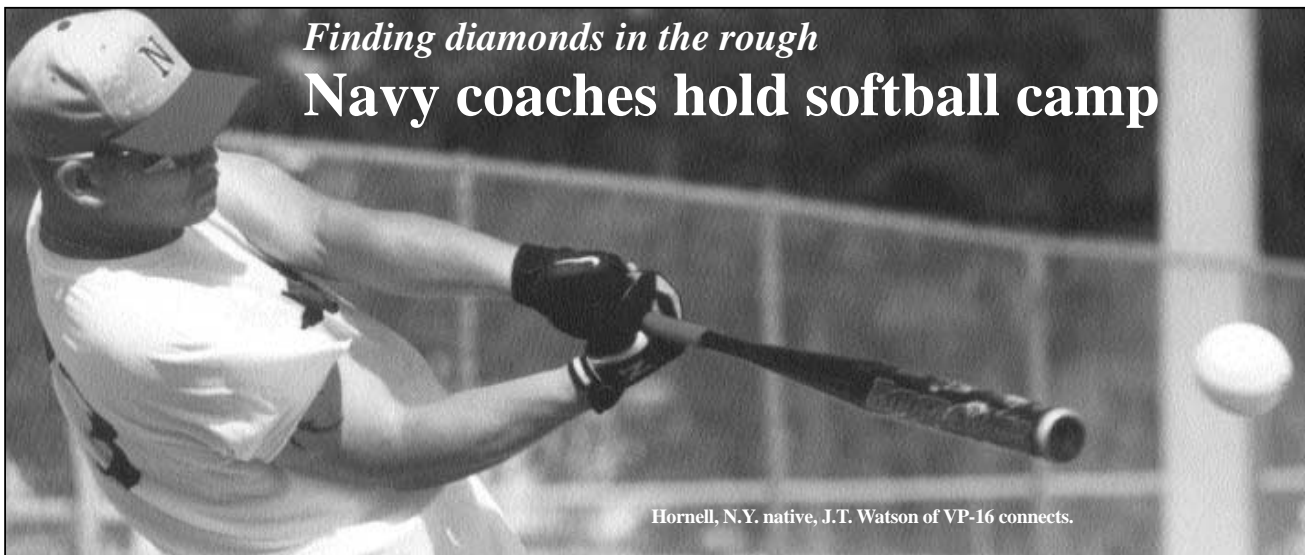
The North Florida Military Officials Association is looking for individuals to officiate soccer, softball, football, and volleyball at NAS Jax. Scorekeepers are also needed for basketball and softball leagues. Experience is not required. If you are interested in officiating or scorekeeping, contact Al Vandercar at 282-0809.

*For more information about any of the sports articles, call Bill Bonser, Sports Coordinator or Mike Gorman, Athletic Director at 542-2930/3239 or e-mail us at dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil or dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil. Visit the MWR website at www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr.*



## Finding diamonds in the rough

# Navy coaches hold softball camp



Hornell, N.Y. native, J.T. Watson of VP-16 connects.

**Story and Photos by Jeff Hilton**  
Staff Writer

Behind his wrap-around sunglasses Earlie West watched each Sailor with the skilled eye of a player who has won the gold. "It's accuracy that will prevail," he tells them as he cautions that strength will not always carry the day. "If I have to choose between the two, I want accuracy," said the coach of the Navy men's softball team as he gauged the potential of a left-handed batter.

West and Navy women's coach Tony Saldivar spent six hours June 16 scouting about 20 prospects from Northeast Florida commands at McCaffrey Field. West said they are looking for players

will play for the ASA national title Aug. 23 - 26 in Lawton, Okla.

Saldivar will screen his prospective players at NSA Mid-South, Tenn. July 28 - Aug. 19. He has coached Sailors on both men's and women's teams for six years. Last year he was the women's team assistant coach. The Sailors he picks will work to improve on Navy's third place finish in last year's Armed Services Championship at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. Aug. 20 - 24. Again, the best players from all services will form a squad to play for the ASA national title Aug. 30 - Sept. in Shreveport, La.

"For each one of you I see, there will be 60 more out there (trying out)," West told the athletes in an effort to bring out their best performance in just a few hours.

Throughout the day, stopwatches marked base running time, ball-handling and hitting skills were noted, coaches reminded prospects of fundamentals then compared thoughts on each Sailor.

"Each of you will be given a complete, honest look," said West who made the All Navy team six years in a row and helped the Navy win gold in 1996. "As an athlete there is no better feeling than winning the gold," he said, "It's unsurpassable." Last year, West was both a player and assistant coach.

West said dedication does pay off. Both coaches have seen Sailors come to camps for several years and not make the final cut. They've witnessed the success stories of Sailors who continue to improve each year and eventually are

selected for the Navy team.

Saldivar said formal invitations to attend camp will be issued by the director of Navy Sports in the next two weeks.

### Many Sailors play softball

West said approximately 110,000 Sailors were playing softball around the fleet in Captain's Cup, pick-up games, or off-base competition. Few ships deploy without softball gear and MWR facilities at most shore installations include softball among their Captain's Cup athletic programs.

"MWR is for everyone," said West who encourages commands to accom-

modate Sailors invited to All Navy athletic camps.

"Those commands who lose a person for six weeks ... gain more than they lose."

The camp at NAS Jax was one of six the coaches will hold to find players who have the skills to win a championship. "These camps are just to find diamonds in the rough," said West.

He and Saldivar then have the job of turning them into diamonds on the diamond in their quest for gold.



Pete Phillips and Watson hustle to make a double play.



Teresa Hinkle of BMC Mayport relays to second base.



Coach Earlie West hits to outfielders.



Coach Tony Saldivar clocks base runners.

with the skills to play at the 'A' and Masters Level of the Amateur Softball Association (ASA).

Both coaches will invite 30 Sailors to camps where they will pick teams of 16 players comprising the best of the best in the Navy.

West will hold his camp at NAS Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas July 21 - Aug. 12. The players he selects will represent the Navy in the Armed Forces Championship Aug. 13 - 18 at Fort Hood, Texas. An Armed Forces team, comprised of the best players from all services will be selected in Texas. They

*"It's accuracy that will prevail ... If I have to choose between the two (accuracy and strength), I want accuracy,"*  
*Earlie West, Navy men's softball coach*